



Atty. Dkt. No. 040302-0280

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shinji ASANO et al.

Title: HIGH-STRENGTH RACE AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING THE
SAME

Appl. No.: 09/996,597

Filing Date: 11/30/2001

Examiner: D. Yee

Art Unit: 1742

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

OK to
enter
SIC

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated September 29, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants have enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

Please amend the application as follows: